The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Cancelled)

2.   (new) A method of characterizing an e-mail to a recipient received at a destination, comprising:

processing information associated with the received e-mail in view of information associated with the recipient; and

determining from a result of the processing step a probability, on a continuum of probabilities, that the recipient is interested in the received e-mail.

3.   (new) The method of claim 2, wherein:

the information associated with the received e-mail includes word content of the received e-mail.

4.   (new) The method of claim 3, wherein:

the information associated with the recipient includes word content associated with the recipient.

5.   (new) The method of claim 4, wherein:

the word content associated with the recipient includes word content associated with one or more interest groups with which the recipient is associated.

6.   (new) The method of claim 2, wherein:

the information associated with the received e-mail includes path information associated with the received e-mail.

7.   (new) The method of claim 6, wherein:

the information associated with the recipient includes path information of previously-received e-mails associated with the recipient.

8.   (new) The method of claim 7, wherein:

the previously-received e-mails associated with the recipient include e-mails previously received by recipients in one or more interest groups with which the recipient is associated.

9.   (new) The method of claim 7, wherein:

the path information associated with previously-received e-mails, associated with the recipient, includes an indication of unique paths associated with the previously-received e-mails and statistics regarding previously-received e-mails nominally received via the unique paths.

10.   (new) The method of claim 9, wherein:

the unique paths associated with previously-received e-mails include IP addresses.

11.   (new) The method of claim 10, wherein:

at least some of the IP addresses are resolved using at least one IP address lookup service.